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H.198

Introduced by Representatives Noyes of Wolcott, Burke of Brattleboro, Buss
of Woodstock, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs,
Cole of Hartford, Donahue of Northfield, Garofano of Essex,
Graham of Williamstown, Gregoire of Fairfield, Harrison of
Chittenden, Hooper of Burlington, Howard of Rutland City,
Krasnow of South Burlington, LaBounty of Lyndon, Leavitt of
Grand Isle, Masland of Thetford, McCann of Montpelier,
McGill of Bridport, Morgan of Milton, Patt of Worcester,
Rachelson of Burlington, Scheu of Middlebury, Stone of
Burlington, Torre of Moretown, Troiano of Stannard, and
Williams of Granby

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Human services; Agency of Human Services; Dementia Coordinator

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish the
position of Dementia Coordinator within the Agency of Human Services.

An act relating to establishing a Dementia Coordinator

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. 3 V.S.A. chapter 53, subchapter 3 is amended to read:

3 Subchapter 3. Commissioners ~~and~~, Directors, and Coordinators

4 * * *

5 § 3055. DEMENTIA COORDINATOR

6 (a) There is created the permanent position of Dementia Coordinator within
7 the Agency of Human Services for the purpose of coordinating, across State
8 government and in collaboration with community partners, policies, programs,
9 and budgets to support and improve the well-being of all Vermonters
10 experiencing dementia and their families. The Dementia Coordinator shall:

11 (1) update, report on, and implement the State Action Plan for
12 Alzheimer's Disease, Related Dementias, and Healthy Aging;

13 (2) identify and apply for grant opportunities to expand the scope of
14 services to individuals with dementia, their families, and caregivers;

15 (3) establish and maintain relationships with other agencies and
16 organizations within the State in order to meet the needs of individuals with
17 dementia and their families;

18 (4) streamline all applicable State government services to prevent
19 duplication of services, increase efficiency, and improve the quality of care in
20 residential and home- and community-based settings;

1 (5) oversee the creation and implementation of dementia-specific
2 training across sectors;

3 (6) use dementia-related data to coordinate efforts across State agencies,
4 with the University of Vermont Medical Center, and with partner organizations
5 to improve public health outcomes;

6 (7) collect data and report on the capacity of long-term care, nursing,
7 and memory care facilities and home- and community-based providers;

8 (8) create, update, and maintain easily accessible public education
9 materials about Alzheimer’s Disease and related dementias for patients,
10 families, caregivers, and health care providers;

11 (9) oversee reporting and evaluation of State-funded dementia services;

12 (10) monitor and share current developments in research and trends
13 around Alzheimer’s Disease and dementia by engaging in educational and
14 professional development opportunities;

15 (11) work with the Department of Health’s Behavioral Risk Factor
16 Surveillance System Coordinator;

17 (12) assess, analyze, and disseminate dementia-specific data collected
18 by the Departments of Health and of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent
19 Living, including data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
20 and from other relevant departments, divisions, and organizations; and

1 (13) complete other duties relevant to supporting policy development
2 and implementation to support individuals with dementia and their family
3 caregivers.

4 (b) The Dementia Coordinator shall have a master's-level degree or
5 bachelor's-level degree in a human services field, public health, or public
6 administration and professional-level experience in public health, memory
7 loss, or a closely related field.

8 (c) The Commission on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders
9 established pursuant to section 3085b of this title shall recommend qualified
10 applicants for the position of the Dementia Coordinator to the Secretary of
11 Human Services for consideration.

12 (d) Annually, on or before December 1, the Dementia Coordinator shall
13 submit a report to the House Committee on Human Services and to the Senate
14 Committee on Health and Welfare describing the state of dementia care in
15 Vermont, including the status of Vermont becoming a dementia-capable State,
16 and any recommendations for legislative action.

17 Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION; DEMENTIA COORDINATOR

18 In fiscal year 2024, \$150,000.00 is appropriated to the Agency of Human
19 Services to fund the Dementia Coordinator position.

20 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

21 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.